augmenting the infrastructural facilities and creation of more posts of various categories for the Burns Ward..

Blood Examination for Dengue Fever

1385. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to non-existance of adequate facilities for examination of blood in particular in Dengue fever. Central Government Hospitals have to depend on the Pune Laboratories for the blood examination reports of Dengue fever cases of Delhi: and

(b) if so. future course of action proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No Sir. Central Government Hospitals in Delhi do not have to depend on the Pune Laboratories for the blood examination reports of Dengue fever cases of Delhi. The arrangement for such examinations exists in National Institute of Communicable Diseases. Delhi and All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. However, for cross checking and isolation of virus occasionally blood samples are sent to National Institute of Virology. Pune where serology tests are also done.

(b) Does not arise.

Tuition Fees in IITs

1386. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have increased the tuition fees in Indian Institute of Technology;

(b) if so. the details thereof: and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). To meet a certain percentage of cost of education. which has been going up substantially year after year. the Council of Indian Institutes of Technology IITs) the Central body to co-ordinate all activities of IIIs in its 34th meeting held on 7.11.1996. approved the enhancement of the fees per year of Undergraduate and Postgraduate courses from Rs. 1850 to Rs. 15,000 and from Rs. 2609 to Rs. 15,000 respectively from academic year 1997-98.

Kashmir Issue in UN Security Council Agenda

1387. SHRI PINAKI MISHRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kashmir issue had been included in the recent UN-Security Council agenda:

(b) the steps that have been taken by the Government to have it deleted from the agenda and the results achieved so far: and

(c) whether the UN-Secretary General had lately offered to mediate between India and Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). The Kashmir issue has been on the agenda of the Security Council for many years. No new or additional agenda item on the subject has been inscribed recently. Earlier this year there was a move to delete from the UN Security Council those agenda items which had not been active for five years. However. a notification by the Secretary General to the General Assembly in October this year, states that no item would be deleted from the list of matters of which the Council is seized without the prior consent of the Member States concerned. Retention of the item would need to be confirmed annually according to a prescribed procedure by a Member State of the United Nations. According to this. deletion of the Kashmir issue would require the consent of both India and Pakistan. As Pakistan is against the deletion of this item. it continus to remain on the agenda of the Security Council.

(c) The UN Secretary General has expressed his willingness to render whatever assistance may be needed to facilitate an early and peaceful resolution of differences between India and Pakistan. including Kashmir provided both India and Pakistan so request. Pakistan has accepted the offer of the Secretary-General. The Government of India, has conveyed its willingness to discuss various issues bilaterally with Pakistan under the Simla Agreement, without pre-conditions of any type.

Precentage of GDP Spent on Defence

1388. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of respective GDP spent on defence by India and Pakistan during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97:

(b) the steps taken by the Government to invite attention of the World Body (UN) to India's security concerns arising from the high level Defence expenditure by Pakistan and sale of sophisticated weapons including jet fighters, missiles and nuclear weapons and devices by the US, China and France etc. to that country; and

(c) the results and response thereof?